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MEDIA ADVISORY

SECRETARY WILCHER TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTRICAL SAFETY DEMONSTRATION AT PSC

FRANKFORT, Ky. (June 24, 2004) – An electrical safety demonstration Monday, June 28, at the Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) will feature LaJuana Wilcher, secretary of the Kentucky Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet, sliding down a rope from a 55-foot-high utility bucket truck.

The demonstration, which is being conducted by the Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative Corp., also will include a simulated rescue from the top of a utility pole. The rappelling technique that Secretary Wilcher will demonstrate is one taught to power line workers to descend from a malfunctioning bucket truck. A 14-foot-trailer equipped with a 7,200-volt electrical system will be used to demonstrate proper safety around power lines and other electrical equipment.

The two-hour event will begin at 9 a.m. It will be held at the PSC offices at 211 Sower Boulevard in Frankfort. Directions are available on the PSC Web site, which is psc.ky.gov.

Commissioner Phil Anderson of the Kentucky Labor Department, which administers workplace safety programs, and Department of Public Protection Commissioner Jim Adams will attend the demonstration.

Representatives of the Kentucky National Guard, Kentucky State Police, the Kentucky Division of Forestry and other state agencies that may encounter electrical safety hazards in their work also have been invited to attend.

The PSC is an agency within the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet that regulates more than 1,500 gas, water, sewer, electric and telecommunication utilities operating in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and has approximately 110 employees.